

CROP-WEATHER REPORT

Issue: 04-26 (ISSN 0896-4734)
Released: 2:00 p.m., MST, September 7, 2004
For Week Ending: September 5, 2004

ISSUED: WEEKLY: Apr-Oct
MONTHLY: Nov-Mar

 MONTANA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE
10 W 15th St Suite 3100
Helena, MT 59626-0033
(406) 441-1240 or 1-800-835-2612
www.nass.usda.gov/mt/
nass-mt@nass.usda.gov

Agricultural Summary

There were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the week. Temperatures were warmer than last week, with Montana’s high temperatures mostly in the upper 80’s to upper 90’s, Glendive had the state’s highest temperature of 103 degrees, while Butte and White Sulphur Springs both had the state’s lowest temperature of 29 degrees. Precipitation was received throughout the state, with West Glacier receiving the largest amount of rainfall at 0.77 inches. Montana’s forecast for the week of September 14th through September 20th shows below normal temperatures and near normal precipitation. Normal temperatures for this period range from highs in the upper 60’s to upper 70’s and lows from the lower 30’s to the upper 40’s.

Soil Moisture Condition Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr. Avg.
Topsoil Moisture				
Very Short	29	21	80	45
Short	43	32	19	30
Adequate	27	41	1	25
Surplus	1	6	0	0
Subsoil Moisture				
Very Short	36	35	71	48
Short	42	39	26	35
Adequate	22	25	3	17
Surplus	0	1	0	0

Field Crops and Livestock Report

The limited rainfall along with warmer temperatures during the past week has sped up the harvest of all the small grains except for winter wheat which is wrapping up. Farmers are beginning to plant winter wheat due to the good soil moisture condition. **Winter wheat** is 98 percent harvested and the 2005 crop is 3 percent seeded. **Spring wheat** is 91 percent ripe and 70 percent harvested, which is behind last year and the five-year average. **Durum wheat** is 84 percent turning, 41 percent ripe, and 22 percent harvested, which is significantly behind last year. **Barley** is 97 percent ripe and 81 percent harvested, which is behind last year. **Oats** are 93 percent ripe, and 74 percent harvested, which is behind last year and the five-year average. The second cutting of **Alfalfa hay** and **other hay** is currently at 83 percent and 67 percent complete, respectively, behind last year’s progress due to isolated rain showers.

Crop Stages Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr. Avg.
Winter Wheat				
Harvested	98	95	100	98
Planted	3	N/A	1	2
Spring Wheat				
Ripe	91	83	99	94
Harvested	70	49	96	77
Durum Wheat				
Turning	84	71	96	N/A
Ripe	41	36	93	N/A
Harvested	22	13	85	N/A
Barley				
Ripe	97	91	99	93
Harvested	81	61	95	81
Oats				
Ripe	93	85	98	96
Harvested	74	47	91	82
Corn				
Harvested for Silage	12	9	24	15
Dry Beans				
Harvested	7	0	70	35
Potatoes				
Harvested	2	N/A	0	0
Hay - Second Cutting				
Alfalfa Hay	83	73	95	85
Other Hay	67	52	70	44

Range and pasture feed condition declined slightly this week, due to the warmer temperatures. Ranchers continue moving cattle & calves as well as sheep & lambs from summer ranges. Movement of livestock from summer ranges is slightly behind last year’s averages.

Livestock Table

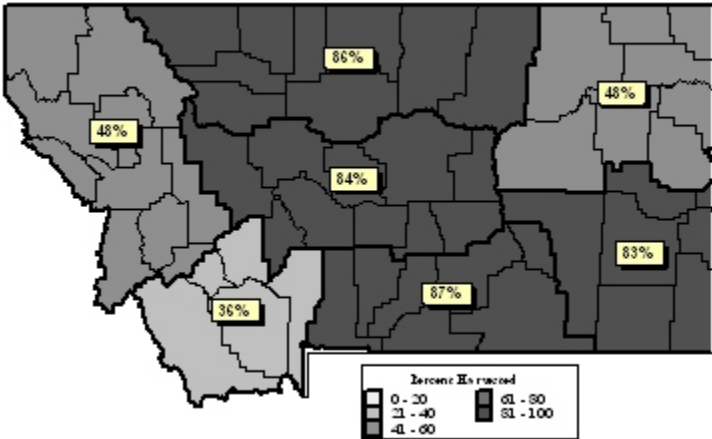
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr. Avg.
Range & Pasture Feed Condition				
Very poor	26	20	41	30
Poor	28	21	34	30
Fair	30	37	20	26
Good	14	19	5	13
Excellent	2	3	0	1
Movement From Summer Ranges				
Cattle & Calves	9	2	11	15
Sheep & Lambs	8	2	12	13

Crop Condition Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr. Avg.
Durum Wheat - Condition				
Very Poor	17	7	N/A	N/A
Poor	19	17	N/A	N/A
Fair	24	20	N/A	N/A
Good	24	43	N/A	N/A
Excellent	16	13	N/A	N/A
Sugar Beet - Condition				
Very Poor	12	13	1	1
Poor	18	15	4	7
Fair	40	32	16	27
Good	26	35	33	43
Excellent	4	5	46	22
Corn - Condition				
Very Poor	10	7	1	1
Poor	24	18	3	5
Fair	41	36	28	26
Good	23	34	52	53
Excellent	2	5	16	15
Dry Beans - Condition				
Very Poor	1	0	N/A	N/A
Poor	17	10	N/A	N/A
Fair	51	33	N/A	N/A
Good	28	54	N/A	N/A
Excellent	3	3	N/A	N/A
Potatoes - Condition				
Very Poor	0	0	0	0
Poor	0	0	0	1
Fair	7	6	4	12
Good	46	42	71	60
Excellent	47	52	25	27

Percent of Spring Wheat Harvested

by District for week ending September 5, 2004



THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/>

Compiled and Summarized by:
Montana Agricultural Statistics Service

In conjunction with:
MSU Extension Agents

USDA County Service Centers
National Weather Service

Weather Information Table For Week Ending 6:00 p.m. MDT, September 4, 2004 1/

STATION	TEMPERATURE PAST WEEK			PRECIPITATION						
				Past Week	April 1, 2004 to Date			October 1, 2003 to Date		
	High	Low	Avg.		Total 2/ In.	Normal 3/ Inches	% Normal	Total 2/ Inches	Normal 3/ Inches	% Normal
	Degrees									
NORTHWEST										
Drummond	88	30	57	0.04	7.66	7.18	107	11.58	11.69	99
Hamilton	88	39	62	0.15	7.48	6.70	112	12.26	12.61	97
Kalispell	85	43	59	0.34	8.62	8.38	103	15.01	16.17	93
Libby	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Missoula	86	35	61	0.29	10.52	7.15	147	15.20	12.88	118
Polson	83	43	62	0.16	7.84	8.59	91	12.93	15.02	86
Superior	88	39	63	0.10	10.11	7.32	138	16.19	15.63	104
Thompson Falls	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
West Glacier	78	44	58	0.77	M	M	M	M	M	M
NORTH CENTRAL										
Chester	85	35	60	0.25	6.67	7.47	89	8.00	9.85	81
Choteau	85	33	59	0.04	M	M	M	M	M	M
Conrad	85	40	63	0.00	M	M	M	M	M	M
Cut Bank	87	41	61	0.04	5.95	9.05	66	6.62	11.49	58
Ft. Benton	92	38	62	0.00	M	M	M	M	M	M
Gold Butte	87	38	60	0.42	8.60	9.30	92	12.15	12.42	98
Harlem	92	35	63	0.00	7.64	7.90	97	10.70	10.36	103
Havre	93	39	64	0.26	9.08	7.46	122	10.12	10.57	96
Malta	95	41	67	0.17	8.13	8.90	91	11.67	11.85	98
Shelby	88	37	61	0.00	4.64	8.34	56	6.48	10.87	60
Turner	89	36	62	0.19	12.33	7.89	156	16.63	10.14	164
Valier	86	42	62	0.11	7.22	8.92	81	9.21	11.23	82
NORTHEAST										
Culbertson	99	42	68	0.29	8.70	9.57	91	12.15	12.25	99
Glasgow	97	41	66	0.16	9.33	7.83	119	11.87	10.38	114
Glendive	103	47	72	0.28	8.30	9.18	90	10.99	12.38	89
Jordan	99	38	64	0.03	M	M	M	M	M	M
Plentywood	94	39	64	0.39	M	M	M	M	M	M
Scobey	98	35	64	0.02	8.60	9.46	91	12.59	11.72	107
Sidney	99	46	69	0.38	6.71	9.54	70	10.65	13.01	82
Wolf Point	101	38	65	0.06	7.31	8.27	88	11.05	10.91	101
CENTRAL										
Cascade	85	35	57	0.00	M	M	M	M	M	M
Flatwillow	100	38	68	0.38	6.81	8.99	76	13.67	12.45	110
Great Falls	90	41	63	0.00	9.93	9.43	105	11.08	13.82	80
Harlowton	90	37	61	0.02	6.94	9.73	71	9.34	13.08	71
Helena	88	37	62	0.02	8.73	7.28	120	10.42	10.41	100
Lewistown	92	33	60	0.02	7.96	11.40	70	11.60	16.65	70
Melstone	89	47	68	0.27	M	M	M	M	M	M
Roundup	97	39	66	0.35	6.77	8.89	76	9.46	12.15	78
Stanford	90	36	62	0.00	7.90	11.42	69	12.41	15.86	78
White Sulphur Spr	87	29	58	0.05	9.06	8.56	106	11.13	12.15	92
SOUTHWEST										
Anaconda	86	31	59	0.20	8.85	8.00	111	13.53	12.39	109
Belgrade	89	32	58	0.05	10.14	8.82	115	12.79	13.47	95
Bozeman MSU	88	34	61	0.05	11.04	11.29	98	17.67	17.73	100
Butte	84	29	55	0.14	8.57	8.09	106	10.01	11.84	85
Dillon	89	33	60	0.01	7.97	7.85	102	9.39	10.72	88
Ennis	87	31	60	0.07	5.77	8.66	67	10.31	12.55	82
Wisdom	82	30	56	0.27	9.41	6.99	135	13.32	11.04	121
SOUTHCENTRAL										
Billings	97	43	66	0.36	7.11	8.42	84	10.72	13.61	79
Gardiner	88	33	63	0.00	6.66	5.88	113	8.06	9.05	89
Hardin	100	41	68	0.54	6.36	6.97	91	9.37	10.96	85
Livingston	94	32	60	0.54	8.56	9.98	86	11.29	14.45	78
Rapelje	95	39	65	0.43	7.44	9.46	79	10.57	14.14	75
Red Lodge	88	42	63	0.76	8.77	12.74	69	12.50	21.93	57
SOUTHEAST										
Baker	99	46	66	0.15	8.47	9.45	90	11.44	13.19	87
Broadus	98	47	69	0.23	7.34	8.59	85	9.55	12.69	75
Ekalaka	94	42	66	0.44	5.98	11.07	54	10.55	15.93	66
Miles City	101	45	68	0.23	5.30	8.94	59	7.53	12.46	60

1/ Data from National Weather Service. 2/ May be revised weekly. 3/ For period 1971-2000. M-More than 25% of reporting days are missing.

Peggy Stringer,
Director

Stephen Brueske, Meteorologist-in-Charge
National Weather Service - (406) 453-2081

Dr. Douglas L. Steele, Director of Extension
Montana State University